

*BEST COPY
Available*

6/17/98

March 1, 1960

Application of Web Techniques to CHAL Program

1. Chemical Mixing

The present procedure is to furnish a pre-soaked web, but this is unstable and short lived and would not fit your logistic problems at all. So the easy solution is to soak the web as you need it. Hence you would need chemical mixing equipment which might be different from what you now have.

However, such a procedure poses logistic and operational problems which make it undesirable so, as will appear later, we propose to investigate other solutions. Further, chemical mixing is well understood and designs are crystallized. Therefore, we see no need to spend time and effort on this phase at this time.

2. Web Energizing

If we have to soak the web in the field, we will need a machine to do it in. All sorts of ways of doing this could be dreamed up, but the one requiring the least development (if any) is to use an existing processor design. We know this would work even though it would appear crude. A few basic experiments are needed.

But we have been wondering if we could not provide the convenience of the presoaked web with the stability of the web prior to field treating by providing a presoaked but dried web which would be activated by short exposure to a liquid just before use. This is our problem, not yours, and we are working on it. If successful, it would eliminate the chemical mixing and web soaking in the field except for some very minor operations.

3. Web Storage

Whether wet or dry the web is not only corrosive but will require protection during transport and storage. Again, the design of a container is a simple problem which we do not have to tackle now.

4. Film Processing

This is the heart of the whole system and the item about which we know the least. In order to achieve minimum processing time and minimum space, our method of attack would be to wind up the web and film together and then separate by unwinding.